

**In the Claims**

Please cancel claims 11 and 40-48 without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the cancelled subject matter in a continuing application. Please amend claim 10 as follows.

**10. (Amended) A connection module comprising:**

a housing having an interior defined by a front portion and a rear portion spaced apart from the front portion, the front portion being substantially parallel to the rear portion;

a plurality of connection locations having exposed openings disposed in the front portion, the connection locations including a plurality of adapters configured and arranged for connection to an optical fiber connector; and

a splicing component disposed at least partially between the connection locations and the rear portion, the splicing component configured to optically connect a fiber optic cable that is connected to the module to interior cables that are optically connected between the splicing component and the connection locations;

the housing further including a lower portion having a direct opening into the interior of the housing, the opening sized to receive a fiber optic cable;

wherein the adapters are positioned at an angle having a first angle component angle that is in the direction of the rear portion to the front portion and a second component angle that is in the direction of the lower portion.